



**McLean Area Branch**  
AAUW of Virginia



# News

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## Branch Website

<http://mclean-va.aauw.net>

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## McLean AAUW Branch Meeting

Sunday, September 18, 2022  
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
McLean Community Center

At the first AAUW McLean Branch meeting of the year, we will welcome our newly elected Branch officers and celebrate the outstanding young women awardees and scholarship winners supported by our Branch. These will include the high school junior STEM winners from Langley and McLean high schools as well as scholarship recipients from Trinity and Marymount universities and Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina.

## Branch Board Meeting: September

Wednesday, September 14  
10:00 am  
McLean Community Center

Board meetings are open. All members are welcome to attend.

## Save The Date: All-District Meeting

Saturday, October 22  
10:00 am - Noon  
via zoom

The first All-District meeting of the 2022-23 program year will be held via Zoom and feature AAUW Chief Executive Officer, **Gloria Blackwell**. **Gloria's** presentation will be followed by other short presentations, and then each of the four participating districts will hold their own meeting in a Zoom breakout room. Stay tuned for further information, including how to register for the All-District Meeting.

## Editors' Note

In order to protect our members' email addresses from being hacked, we have removed the "@" in email addresses and substituted the word "at." Whenever an email address appears in our newsletter or our website, it is written as follows: [helenday at gmail.com](mailto:helenday@gmail.com). Apparently, it is the "@" sign that enables hackers to access email accounts.

Simply copy the phrase into an email "To" line, replace the word "at" with the "@" sign, and remove all spaces to re-construct a usable address.

## Presidents' Message

We begin a new year as a 5 Star Branch, an AAUW National distinction for aligning our work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster its mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. This achievement is a credit to our Branch programs, STEM and DEI activities, our support for AAUW National, social media, and our governance framework.

We are fortunate to have a strong, dedicated, and hard-working Board guided by a strategic vision: To be the leading organization in McLean influencing and actively supporting increased empowerment and equity for girls and women in the classroom and the workplace. The strategic plan will guide our planning activities, programs, and philanthropy.

The Branch has urgent requirements. We ask members to contact us immediately if you are willing to volunteer as:

- A Co-Treasurer or Assistant to help our Treasurer **Lynne Glikbarg** with a variety of tasks requiring attention to detail.
- Two Fund Raising Co-Chairs. We have enthusiastic volunteers but need a dynamic duo to develop ideas and long-range plans to raise money for all the great work we want to do. Several smaller fund raisers are scheduled this year.

We face many tough challenges of living with COVID and the socio-economic changes happening at home and abroad. We hope to be progressive in our efforts to promote gender equity, attract new members, and serve our community. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do.



**Anita Booth and Sue Christie,  
Branch Co-Presidents.**

## Membership

### *Welcome new members to our Branch*

#### **Hamideh Soltani**

**Dr. Hamideh Soltani**, a resident of McLean since 2017, has a Ph.D. from the University of Delaware in Environmental Engineering and is working as an Environmental Scientist/ Researcher for Save the Water (STW). Her work is focused on water technology and treatment. **Hamideh** is currently a liaison researcher for STW with Nova Southeastern University in Florida, focusing on water pollution in the Everglades and South Florida. For four years, **Hamideh** taught and researched at Bochum Ruhr University in Germany in nanotechnology.

## AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

You can find many useful resources on our state website: <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/diversity-inclusion-equity/>.

## Putting the Fun into Fundraising

The Board approved small fundraising projects that were generated during the May fundraising meeting. These include a used jewelry sale in September at the McLean Community Center (POCs are **Cheryl Scott Williams** and **Sue Christie**), a holiday wine tasting event in November (POC is **Carol Mournighan**), and a virtual holiday appetizer cooking lesson in December (POC is **Anita Booth**). These are low revenue/low effort fun events aimed to generate immediate funds.

Despite a long term, concerted effort to locate adequate space for receiving, sorting, and storing books for a large Used Book Sale, we have been unsuccessful and have no choice but to consider alternatives for a new signature fund raising activity. One suggestion is a Science Discovery Day for children and families with corporate sponsorship. Such a signature event, requiring long-term planning, would be well-aligned with our mission and have the potential for high visibility.

We welcome additional fundraising volunteers, including chairpersons, as well as fundraising ideas.

### Jewelry Sale Fundraiser

The McLean AAUW invites you to shop our Jewelry Sale featuring gently used items in a range of styles.

**Saturday, September 17**  
**9:00 to 1:00**  
**Parking Lot of**  
**McLean Community Center**  
**1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean**



**This event benefits scholarships for women  
and other programs of AAUW McLean**

**American Association of University Women**

### Wine Tasting Fundraiser

The Wine Tasting Fundraiser is scheduled for **November 11, 2022**. The first planning meeting will be held **September 14, 2022, 4:30–6:30 pm** at **Janet Taylor's home**. Wine and snacks will be provided. If you'd like to be a part of this committee, contact **Janet Taylor** at [taylor6840 at gmail.com](mailto:taylor6840@gmail.com) or **Carol Mournighan** at [clmourn at gmail.com](mailto:clmourn@gmail.com).



The purpose of the Public Policy Committee is as follows:

- Educate
- Disseminate
- Motivate
- Action

Since public policy news is constantly changing and the Branch newsletter is only published once a month, our Public Policy Team will try to keep you up to date by posting up to date articles on our Branch website, <https://mclean-va.aauw.net/>.

The Public Policy Committee will meet Monday, September 12 at 2:00 pm at Starnuts Café in McLean. Contact **Janet Taylor** at Taylor6840 at gmail.com or **Carol Mournighan** at clmourn at gmail.com, if you'd like to join the group. All are welcome.

## 2022-2024 AAUW-VA Public Policy Priorities

- Equality, Individual Rights, and Social Justice
- Economic Security
- Education

Click here to read more:

<https://aauw-va.aauw.net/files/2022/06/AAUW-VA-2022-2024-Public-Policy-Priorities-final-approved-by-Board.pdf>.

AAUW believes everyone has the right to make decisions about their own reproductive lives without government interference. Abortion access is vital to women's ability to control their lives, bodies, and futures. Without reproductive freedom, there can be no equity. Click here to read the entire statement:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/press-releases/aauw-statement-strongly-condemning-the-u-s-supreme-courts-opinion-on-dobbs-v-jackson-womens-health-organization>.

## Redistricting

As a result of redistricting, many voters were assigned new Congressional and State House and Senate Districts. Many who were in the Virginia Congressional 10<sup>th</sup> District represented by **Jennifer Wexton** have been moved into the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District represented by **Don Beyer**. This district primarily consists of voters who live inside the beltway. Many who live outside the beltway have been moved into the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District represented by **Gerry Connally**. To determine your current district, visit <https://www.vpap.org/redistricting/> and type in your address.

The general election on November 8 will include various municipal elections as well as the U.S. House of Representatives. Now is the time to ensure you and others are properly registered and acquainted with both the candidates and their stands on issues important to us. AAUW-VA will continue to provide updates throughout the election season. **We encourage you to help us Get Out the Vote in 2022!**

## Become a Two Minute Activist

Join AAUW in urging Congress to improve and expand legislation protecting our civil rights, economic security, and access to education. AAUW provides all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress or state legislators about pressing issues.

AAUW will send emails and/or texts to you about upcoming bills and provide all the information in the email/text. All you need to do is forward to your legislators to fight for equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equality in education, and more. Sign up to get regular alerts to be able to take timely action. Sign up here: <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

If you have any questions about Public Policy or issues you would like to discuss, contact either **Janet Taylor** at [Taylor6840 at gmail.com](mailto:Taylor6840@gmail.com) or **Carol Mournighan** at [clmourn at gmail.com](mailto:clmourn@gmail.com).



## Special Interest Groups | September

### Bridge Group

The Bridge Group will not meet in September.

### Morning Lit Group

Morning Lit will meet **Friday, September 9, at 10:00 am**, at the **McLean Community Center** to discuss *Washington: The Indispensable Man*, by **James Thomas Flexner**. If you prefer to attend via **zoom**, contact **Betsy Reddaway**, [pbreddaway at verizon.net](mailto:pbreddaway@verizon.net) to receive the **zoom** link prior to the meeting. All are welcome.

### Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee will meet **Monday, September 12 at 2:00 pm**, at **Starnuts Café in McLean**. Contact **Janet Taylor** at [Taylor6840 at gmail.com](mailto:Taylor6840@gmail.com) or **Carol Mournighan** at [clmourn at gmail.com](mailto:clmourn@gmail.com) if you'd like to join the group. All are welcome.

### Current Events

Current Events will meet via **zoom**, **Tuesday September 13, at 9:30 am**. All members are invited to bring their favorite news item to discuss. If you want to participate for the first time, send your email address to **Mary Lou Melley** at [maryloumelley at gmail.com](mailto:maryloumelley@gmail.com). An email reminder will be sent a few days prior to the meeting and a follow-up the day before with the **zoom** link.

### Evening Lit Group

The Evening Literature Group will meet via **zoom**, on **Monday, September 19, at 7:30 pm** to discuss *The Cape Doctor* by **E. J. Levy**. **E. J. Levy** will join the conversation led by **Amina Sarraf**. If you plan to attend for the first time, contact **Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales** at [myrtlehencor at gmail.com](mailto:myrtlehencor@gmail.com).

### Great Decisions

Great Two meetings remain for the current session. The next meeting will be via **zoom**, **September 20 at 9:30 am**. The discussion topic is *Biden Foreign Policy in the Age of Strategic Competition*. If you have never been part of this group, you are encouraged to attend to see if you are interested in joining next year. The new session begins in **February**. **Next session's books will be ordered at a discount in early October**. Let **Angela Ehemann** know if you want to be included at [acehemann at verizon.net](mailto:acehemann@verizon.net) or 703.893.3578.

### DE&I

The DE&I Committee will meet **Tuesday, September 27 at 2:00 pm** via **zoom**. If you haven't attended the meeting before, send your email address to **Ruth Nowjack-Raymer** at [ruthoheast at gmail.com](mailto:ruthoheast@gmail.com) so you can receive the **zoom** link. All are welcome.

# Connections Calendar | September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 <b>Morning Lit Group Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, McLean Community Center	10
11	12 <b>Public Policy Committee,</b> 2:00 pm, Starnut Gourmet	13 <b>Current Events Group,</b> 9:30 am, via <b>zoom</b>	14 <b>Branch Board Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, McLean Community Center --- <b>Wine Tasting Planning Meeting,</b> 4:30 pm, Janet Taylor's home	15	16	17 <b>Jewelry Sale,</b> 9:00 am-2:00 pm, McLean Community Center Parking Lot
18 <b>Branch Meeting,</b> 1:30 pm, McLean Community Center	19 <b>Evening Lit Group,</b> 7:30 pm, via <b>zoom</b>	20 <b>Great Decisions,</b> 9:30 am, via <b>zoom</b>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 <b>DE&amp;I Committee,</b> 2:00 pm, via <b>zoom</b>	28	29	30	

### If You Shop at Amazon

Next time you make a purchase from Amazon, first go to our branch website, <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>, click on the Amazon link at the bottom of the home page and make your purchase. Amazon will give our branch up to a 10% rebate.

**AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.**

**By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.**

**For membership information call**

**Myrtle Hendicks-Corrales  
703.973.0925**

**Diana Parsell  
703.297.9893**

**Do you have any AAUW McLean Branch news, updates or information you wish to share with our local community?**

Please email your publicity materials no later than three weeks before you wish to have it posted in our local newspapers:

**Sultana Parveen (sultanarp at gmail.com)**



**McLean Area (VA) Branch  
P.O. Box 1002  
McLean, VA 22101**

**Branch Website | <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>**

**AAUW VA Website | <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>**

**AAUW Website | [www.AAUW.org](http://www.AAUW.org)**